In the Specification:

Please add the following paragraphs after paragraph [0009]:

[0009.1]   Figure 6 is block diagram of a system with multiple removable listening devices, each communicating with a separate tool.

[0009.2]   Figure 7 is block diagram of a system with a removable listening device acting as a web server, database server, and application server.

Please add the following paragraphs after paragraph [0049]:

[0049.1]   Figure 6 depicts a system with multiple removable listening devices, each communicating with a separate tool. Removable listening devices 620, 630, and 640 communicate data with a host 610. The removable listening device 620 has a SECS – XML part 621, a tool data server 622, a hardware interface 623, and a web interface 624, which communicate data with each other. Similarly, the removable listening device 630 has a SECS – XML part 631, a tool data server 632, a hardware interface 633, and a web interface 634, which communicate data with each other; and the removable listening device 640 has a SECS – XML part 641, a tool data server 642, a hardware interface 643, and a web interface 644, which communicate data with each other.

[0049.2]   The SECS - XML parts 621, 631, and 641 gather and translate data transferred between host 610 and the tool 625, the tool 635, and the tool 645, respectively. The data is stored in a database server 650, which is in communication with SECS - XML parts 621, 631, and 641. The data is published through the COM based tool data servers 622, 632, and 642. The tool data servers 622, 632, and 642 collect data from miscellaneous other hardware 626, 636, and 646 respectively, via hardware interface 623, 633, and 643, respectively.

[0049.3]   The SECS - XML parts 621, 631, and 641 convert the SECS II data into XML. SECS II uses an untagged data format. Therefore, the data is usable by transmitting and receiving devices that possess additional required and/or have established the "meaning" of the data in context of the current communication session. This data is converted into tagged XML format, rendering it accessible to a wide variety of clients, such as browser based client 671, which for example uses some combination of HTML pages, XML, and Java Beans. The SECS - XML parts 621, 631, and 641

convert data in the opposite direction, from XML to SECS II, for communication either with the host 610, or the tool 625, 635, or 645 respectively. The conversion is a multi-step process, in which the actual conversion is based upon a previously created, expandable infrastructure of dictionary/mappers. This infrastructure is created in a semi-automatic process, and enables quick and accurate acquisition of a new tool, such as tool 625, 635, or 645.

[0049.4]   The database server 650 stores a database of the XML data. The database is commercial off-the-shelf software such as Oracle 8i that allows storage of data received from the various tools, and retrieval of information by interested clients. Data can be filtered and analyzed to provide trends and various statistics. The database is designed to provide the capabilities of reliability, scalability, archiving, replication, and web connectivity.

[0049.5]   The tool data servers 622, 632, and 642 provide real-time data for tools and applications to complement the database's capabilities of massive data storage and relatively slow response time. A tool data server uses dynamic software structures to maintain current system state data. Using a publish/subscribe data distribution model and well-documented public interfaces, the tool data server provides updates on specified variable changes to registered clients.

[0049.6]   The hardware interface 623, 633, and 643 enable the removable listening device 620, 630, and 640 respectively to receive data from tools or tool components that are not monitored by SECS. In such case, a dedicated interface is created, using standard drivers (serial, parallel, DeviceNet). The data received from hardware 626, 636, and 646 is then manipulated like the data transmitted via SECS communication.

[0049.7]   The web interface 624, 634, and 644 plugs into a COTS web server to enable external browser-based clients to selectively access and modify online data in the removable listening device's tool data server. The web interface provides tool data server access to HTML, XML, and beans browser-based clients. HTML pages are displayed on a standard browser or thin GUI, enabling quick and painless interfacing of any deployed tool. XML requires use of XSL to enable and control the display of XML on the client's browser. Beans, or Java applets downloaded to the client, enable presentation and animation of data from the tool. Beans can be extended to support

any further manipulation of data on a specific tool, a group of tools, or data exchanged between tools for interoperability. The removable listening device is an equipment web server.

[0049.8] External clients access removable listening device data by means of generic tools, such as SQL, HTML, DCOM, XML, and Java. External client types that can be used have: database interfaces such as software applications using SQL or HTML, for example database interface 651 communicating via database server 650 with the SECS – XML parts 621, 631, and 641; application interfaces using DCOM such as application interface client 660 in communication with tool data server 622, 632, and 642; and browser-based clients such as browser-based clients 671 communicating via firewall 670 with web interface 624, 634, and 644. External clients use standard protocols to access the removable listening device, so standard commercial security solutions, such as firewalls, can be used. In addition, the removable listening device supports fine granularity definition of access control lists to achieve maximum security.

[0049.9] Figure 7 depicts a system with a removable listening device acting as a web server, database server, and application server. Removable listening device 720 is similar to removable listening devices 620, 630, and 640 of Figure 6. Removable listening device 720 communicates data with a host 710. The removable listening device 720 has a SECS – XML part 721, a tool data server 722, a hardware interface 723, a web interface 724, and a database 750, which communicate data with each other. The SECS – XML part 721 communicates with tool 725. The hardware interface 723 communicates with miscellaneous hardware 726. The database 750 communicates with a database interface client 751. The tool data server 722 communicates with an application interface client 760. The web interface 724 communicates with a browser-based client 771.